

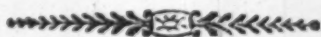


PRINCE LE BOO



PRINCE LE BOO

THE
INTERESTING AND AFFECTING
HISTORY
OF
PRINCE LEE BOO,
A NATIVE OF THE
PELEW ISLANDS,
Brought to ENGLAND by Captain WILSON.
TO WHICH IS PREFIXED,
A short Account of those Islands,
WITH
A SKETCH OF THE
Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants.



DUBLIN:

PRINTED FOR J. RICE, No. 5, COLLEGE-
GREEN, AND R. WHITE, No. 20,
DAME-STREET.

M, DCC, XCI.



in
C
no
fo
th
ta
w
V

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Compiler of the following sheets, on perusing Mr. Keate's account of Captain Wilson's shipwreck near the Pelew Islands, was so struck with the character of the young prince, an inhabitant of one of those Islands, who accompanied Captain Wilson to England, that he

felt himself impelled by an irresistible desire to give a sketch of his character to the young people of this country.

In every part of this youthful stranger's conduct, manners, and behaviour, there is something peculiarly interesting.

The ease and affability which remarkably distinguished him in the most polite companies, the lively gaiety and unembarrassed vivacity which he displayed

played on all occasions, the intelligent and penetrating curiosity which he evinced in scrutinising every object that met his eye ; but, above all, the natural goodness of his heart, the amiable simplicity of his manners, and the patient firmness and complacency with which he met the approach of death, (a firmness and complacency that would have done honour to the most enlightened christian,) form al-

together, perhaps, an object, than which one more useful, more entertaining, and in the event more truly instructive, has not often occurred.

The original intention of the Compiler was to have given merely an unique history of this remarkable youth; but, in arranging the materials, he found it indispensable (in order to introduce him to the acquaintance of his young friends) to give a slight view
of

of Captain Wilfon's unfortunate shipwreck, his residence on the Island, his acquaintance with the natives during his stay, &c. to shew in what manner and by what means LEE Boo became a visitor to this country.

On the whole, if in this little abstract he has contributed to the amusement, (and, what with him has much more weight, to the instruction and

edification of the juvenile world,) he will think the few hours of his time that it has taken up, have not been employed in vain.

The

The interesting and affecting
H I S T O R Y
OF
PRINCE LEE BOO,
&c.

THE Pelew Islands, one of which gave birth to the amiable prince who is the chief subject of the following pages, are situated in the western part of the Pacific Ocean ; and were, in all probability, first noticed by the Spaniards of the Philippines, and by them called

A 5 the

the Palos Islands, from the tall palm trees which grow there in great numbers, and which, at a distance, have the appearance of masts of ships; the word *palos*, in the Spanish language, sometimes signifying a mast.

There is every reason to suppose that no European had ever been upon them, before the *Antelope*, a packet belonging to the East India Company, and commanded by captain Henry Wilson, was wrecked there in the night between the 9th and 10th of August, 1783; a misfortune the more distressing to the crew, as they were utterly ignorant what resources the islands afforded, or, supposing them to be inhabited, what

what might be the disposition of the inhabitants. The perplexities and fears of such a situation may be better conceived than described. However, by means of the boats, and their own vigorous exertions, they reached land about three or four leagues distant from the rocks upon which their ship had struck: it proved to be an island not constantly inhabited, but resorted to occasionally by the natives of some of the other islands, whom, in the course of a few days, they found to be a people simple in their manners, delicate in their sentiments, and friendly in their dispositions—a people,

ple, in short, who do honour to the human race.

The opening a communication, as well by discourse as good offices, between such a people and perhaps as meritorious a captain and crew as ever plowed the main, was effected by an union of singular circumstances. It had happened, that a native of Bengal, who spoke the Malay language perfectly well, had been recommended to captain Wilson as a servant: it had also happened, that, near a year before, a tempest had thrown on those parts a Malay, who, as a stranger, had been noticed and favoured by the king,
and

and who was now become acquainted with the language of the islanders. By these extraordinary events both the English and the inhabitants of Pelew had each an interpreter, who could converse freely together in the Malay tongue, and capt. Wilson's servant, whose name was Tom Rose, speaking English, an easy intercourse immediately took place on both sides, and all those impediments were at once removed which would have arisen among people who had no way of conveying their thoughts to one another but by signs and gestures, which might often have been misunderstood. Thus the English had the happy opportunity of com-

communicating the particulars of the calamity which had befallen them, and of imploring the friendship of the natives; and these, in return, finding their visitors to have no hostile intentions, freely gave them the good-will they desired, and if but little was in their power, that little they bestowed generously to alleviate their distress.

The natives themselves were of a deep copper colour, and naked; and the astonishment which those who first discovered the English, manifested on seeing their colour, plainly shewed that they had never before beheld a white man. The cloaths of the strangers, too, puzzled them
exceed-

exceedingly; for it seemed to be matter of doubt with them, whether those and their bodies did not form one substance, till the use and occasion thereof were explained by the Malay. The same idea afterwards prevailed amongst others: for when one of the crew (the captain's brother) was deputed to wait upon the king, who resided in an island at some distance from that whereon the English had saved their lives, he accidentally pulled off his hat, at which the gazing spectators were all struck with astonishment, as if they thought it had formed a part of his head.

Abba Thulle, which was the king's

king's name, being a man of great humanity as well as extraordinary natural understanding, was no less affected with the misfortune the English had met with, than surprized at their persons, and assured them of his friendship and favour. He paid them frequent visits, testifying the utmost admiration at every thing he saw, and the greatest good-will and regard for them and their concerns ; and granted them permission to avail themselves of every convenience his country afforded for their relief ; for the captain and crew had entertained the fond hope, as the ship did not go immediately to pieces, of being enabled, by means of the im-
plements

plements and materials they might get out of her, to build another vessel sufficiently large to convey them to 'Macao, or some part of China.

As they pursued this design, new wonders broke upon Abba Thulle and his countrymen, who, till now, were utter strangers to the forge, the saw, and other European implements and utensils, by the use of which they saw such things performed as impressed them with equal surprize and esteem—even the grindstone struck them with wonder ; and they could not look upon the English but as a superior as well as an uncommon kind of human beings.

But if the king and his people were

were so surprized at the effect of a saw or a grindstone, what must have been their astonishment at that of a gun!—To give them some idea of it, on the first visit from the king, captain Wilson ordered his men to be exercised before him and his numerous attendants, and to fire three vollies in different positions; when the surprize of the natives was well marked by their hallooing, hooting, jumping and chattering, which produced a noise almost equal to the report of the musquets. After this, one of the fowls which had been saved from the little live stock of the Antelope, was purposely driven across the cove where they were assembled,

sembled, and where one of the officers was prepared with a fowling-piece loaded with shot. He fired, and the bird instantly dropped, having its wing and leg broken. Some of the natives ran to it, took it up, and carried it to the king, who examined it with great attention, unable to comprehend how it could be wounded, not having seen any thing pass out of the gun. This created a vast murmur and amazement amongst them.

It is but natural to suppose, after this display of their power, that the English were regarded with no small degree of reverence, and as persons whose friendship and assistance might be

be of the greatest advantage to the people who had given them so kind a welcome to their country. All the islands lying in this spot of the globe, and now known to us by the name of the Pelew Islands, do not belong to one sovereign; there are several governments or kingdoms, and one of the greatest blemishes in the characters of the respective people consist in that wherein they are like Europeans—they have wars one with another. Abba Thulle was then at war with some of his neighbours. He instantly conceived the great superiority a few musquets would give him over his enemies; but his native delicacy rendered it extremely

extremely difficult to make the request. His heart burnt within him to ask a favour which the generosity of his feelings would not allow him to mention. The English had been, and still were, in his power ; they had sought his protection as unfortunate strangers—he had already shewn them, and still meant to shew them every mark of hospitality which his naked, unproductive country could afford—he conceived that what he wished to ask, as it might prove a temporary inconvenience, would appear illiberal—and what most checked his speaking was, that, circumstanced as the English were, a request would have the appearance

pearance of a command—Reflections these which would have done honour to the most enlightened and refined potentate upon earth!——

However, the matter in contemplation was of the greatest consequence; and at length, after a most severe struggle within himself, the noble Abba Thulle ventured to ease his troubled breast, by requesting captain Wilson to permit four or five of his men to accompany him, with their musquets, on an expedition against an island which had done him an injury. The king found the English not ungrateful; the request was willingly complied with, every one of them expressing a readiness

to go; but five young men, who were particularly desirous of the appointment, were selected from the rest.

In the forenoon of the following day, which was the 17th of August, the five Englishmen attended Abbe Thulle according to his desire, being distributed in five canoes; and having left Oroolong, the name of the island which had proved so propitious an asylum to them, they were conveyed to another of the king's islands, at about six leagues distance, where they were treated with great kindness and hospitality. They set sail the next morning for Pelew, the place of the king's residence,

fidence, and capital, as we shall call it, of the island of Cooroora, about three or four miles further: here they remained till the 21st, as the king could not till then get all his canoes together: early on that day, however, there was a muster of them before the king's house, with their arms, which consisted of bamboo darts from five to eight feet long, pointed with the wood of the beetle-nut tree, and bearded; these are used for close quarters: but there are short ones for distance, which are thrown by means of a stick two feet long.

The English again embarked in five different canoes, and sailed away
about

about ten or twelve leagues, calling as they proceeded at several of the king's villages to refresh and reinforce. Between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon they got sight of the enemy. There were now with the king 150 canoes, containing considerably more than 1000 men. The English could not ascertain the force of the enemy.

Before any hostilities were commenced, the king's eldest brother, whose name was Raa Kook, and who ranked as general of his forces, went in his canoe close to the town: he had with him one of the Englishmen, who, however, was ordered not to fire till a certain signal should

B

be

be given for that purpose. The general talked with the enemy for some time ; but what he said being received by them with great indifference, he threw a spear at them, which they almost instantly returned. This being the signal for firing, was immediately obeyed—a man was seen to fall, and this threw the enemy into great confusion: Such as were on shore ran away, and the greater part of those in the canoes jumped into the water, and made for land. A few more musquets were fired, which entirely dispersed the enemy. Thus successful, Abba Thulle thought proper to return with his armament, and safely sent back

back his English allies to Oroolong, after having expressed great satisfaction in their behaviour, treated them in the best manner he could, and promised supplies of provision for their companions. Indeed, the whole country resounded with their praises; and within a few days, the king actually gave Captain Wilson the island Oroolong for the English.

Who can wonder that Abba Thulle should embrace the opportunity which now offered of bringing all his enemies to his own terms? Accordingly, we find, a few days afterwards, he requested ten men of Captain Wilson, to go on another

expedition against the enemy. This second request of Abba Thulle was as readily complied with as the former, and ten men selected.

The king, attended by upwards of 200 canoes, proceeded in the night time towards Artingall, off which island the fleet arrived a little before day-break ; but then halted till the rising of the sun, it being a maxim with the natives of Pelew never to attack an enemy in the dark, or take him by surprize. As the day came on, a small canoe, containing only four men, each with a white feather stuck up in his hair, presented themselves before the enemy, who, observing this signal of parley, dispatched

patched a canoe to Raa Kook for that purpose. Raa Kook demanded whether he would submit to such terms as his brother had proposed, by way of atoning for injuries complained of. To this demand, after communicating it to the king of Artingall, the enemy's canoe brought back a flat refusal, upon which Abba Thulle ordered his conch shell to be sounded, and made the signal for his canoes to arrange themselves in order of battle.

Abba Thulle had a few days before given notice to the king of Artingall that he should offer him battle; so that he was prepared for it: nevertheless, the people of that

island kept their canoes close under land, contenting themselves with blowing their conch shells in defiance. Perceiving this unwillingness in the enemy to advance to combat, Abba Thulle dispatched some light canoes (which, from their cutting through the water with astonishing swiftness, were called by the English *frigate canoes*) to order a squadron to conceal themselves behind some high land ; after which he made a feint of retiring, and that with apparent precipitancy. This artful manœuvre gave instant courage to the enemy, who thereupon began to quit the shore and chace the king, whom they imagined to
be

be flying before them. Upon this, those canoes which had been concealed behind the high land, rushed out between the island and the enemy, to cut off their retreat; and the king, finding his stratagem had succeeded, turned, and made a signal for his fleet to form in divisions and engage. A general attack now took place, and the spears were mutually directed with much animosity. The English, who were distributed amongst the king and his chiefs, one in a canoe, kept up a continual fire, which not only did great execution, but puzzled and bewildered the enemy in the extreme; they perceived their dead to have

have holes in their bodies, yet saw no spear sticking in them; nor could they comprehend how or why their people dropped and died without receiving any apparent blow. Thus confounded and unable to sustain so unequal a contest, they soon betook themselves to flight, and, notwithstanding the squadron in their rear, regained their own shore, with the loss of nine men taken prisoners and six canoes; a loss, indeed, to be looked upon as very considerable, a canoe being there esteemed of as much consequence as the largest man of war in Europe. Abba Thulle's fleet having rode triumphant along the coast of Artingall, founding their
conch

conch
the e
to Pe
S
ting
expe
othe
upo
not
Eng
The
atte
thor
fiste
bou
Art
war
lan

conch shells, and in vain defying the enemy to a fresh battle, returned to Pelew.

Still, however, the people of Artingall refused to submit, and a third expedition, more formidable than the others, was soon afterwards resolved upon; in which Abba Thulle was not only accompanied by ten of the English, but had also a swivel gun. The number of canoes which now attended the king far exceeded those he had before, he being assisted on this occasion by his neighbouring allies. But the people of Artingall declined fighting upon the water; so that Abba Thulle's forces landed and attacked them on shore.

The

The swivel played constantly upon the houses, which were filled with people; and the English musquetry, covering the Pelew people, soon dislodged the enemy, and one of the houses was by some accident presently in flames. Arra Kooker, a brother of the king's, having pursued the enemy further than any other, and seeing one of them coming towards the place where he was, stepped amongst some bushes to let him pass, then followed, and stunned him with a blow from a wooden sword, and was dragging him a prisoner to his canoe, when one of the English, perceiving several of the enemy rushing down on his friend, and

and that he must certainly have been killed, ran and levelled his piece at them, which instantly put them to flight; a circumstance the more fortunate, as the Englishman's whole stock of ammunition had been expended, and he had actually at the time no charge in his musquet. So great a dread had this instrument of death inspired! Nevertheless, the natives of Artingall behaved with more courage in this engagement: they defended the house which took fire, to the last, nor quitted it till it was ready to fall. One of the Pelew people also distinguished himself in a very extraordinary manner: he ran to the house which was in flames, tore

tore off a burning brand, and, carrying it to another house, where many of the enemy had taken shelter, set that on fire likewise. He escaped to his companions unhurt; and the king publicly rewarded him, by immediately placing with his own hand a string of beads in his ear, and afterwards making him an inferior rupack on his return to Pelew.

In this action five canoes were destroyed which the enemy had hauled on shore, and much other damage done; but what was the greatest matter of triumph to the people of Pelew was their carrying away the stone whereon the king of Artingall

Arti
prob
as
Edw
land
king
ster
vain
adv
deri
ries
den
ed
abo
had
acti
and

Artingall used to sit in council ; which, probably, was with them reckoned as glorious an exploit, as is with us Edward the First's bringing to England the inauguration stone of the kings of Scotland, now in Westminster abbey. Indeed, finding it in vain to contend against such evident advantage as the people of Pelew derived from their English auxiliaries, the king of Artingall very prudently dropped the war, and concluded a peace.

In this battle, a son of Raa Kook, about 18 years of age, was slain. He had been wounded in the second action by a spear flung into his foot, and the natives, in trying to pull it

C

out,

out, had broken it short off. They then applied a cord, fastened to the end of a spear which remained in the foot, and exerted great strength to extract it; but the barb having been forced between the small bones, the inflammation and swelling, which immediately took place, rendered every effort ineffectual; and, in the state the limb then was, they would more easily have pulled off his foot than have drawn out the broken spear. The wound was then put under the care of a native, reputed to be skilled in such matters, who with a small knife which he had got from the wreck, began to cut away the flesh, in order to lay the bone bare;

bare ; but the finishing of the operation being probably prevented by the effusion of blood, after mangling the foot, recourse was had to their ordinary practice of fomentation. In this wretched state of the wound, Raa Kook consulted Mr. Sharp, the surgeon of the Antelope, who advised him to let the fomentation be continued till the swelling should abate, when he promised to do every thing in his power for the relief of his son. However, upon the going down of the swelling, the natives extracted the spear themselves, by forcing it through the foot ; and the youth, who inherited all the spirit and intrepidity of his father, finding,

though he could not walk, yet that he was able to stand up in a canoe, and throw a spear, insisted that he would go on the third expedition wherein, at the beginning of the action which ensued, as he was gallantly endeavouring to get up close to the enemy's shore, he received a dart in his body, which unhappily put an end to an existence, that though originated and finished in an obscure corner of the world, afforded an example of fortitude and bravery well worthy of attention and imitation in the brightest regions of it.

Not long afterwards Abba Thulle took occasion still once more to begin the

et that the assistance of the English on an
canoe, expedition against another island,
at he named Pelelew ; and ten men were
ition ; lent him as before. On this enter-
he ac-terprize he was attended by full 300
as gal- canoes. Upon their arrival off Pe-
close-lelew, the enemy thought proper,
eived a after receiving some damage on a
appily neighbouring island, to sue for peace,
that to which, no doubt, they were chiefly
in an induced by the terror of the English
afforded fire-arms. Two Malays who had
d bra- been wrecked with the one already
n and mentioned as the interpreter between
ons of the English and people of Pelew,
were, at its conclusion, given up to
Thulle Abba Thulle.

to beg It was now the latter end of Oc-
the tober ;

tober; and such of the crew of the Antelope as had not accompanied Abba Thulle on his expeditions, having been indefatigable in getting stores and planks from the ship, in cutting down timber on the island, and in forwarding by every means in their power the grand object in view, they had the satisfaction to hope, from the great progress they had made, that success would attend their endeavours, and that they should soon complete such a vessel as would carry them to Macao, or some part of China, as before mentioned; and this encouraged them to persevere in their labours,

bours, however toilsome, with cheerfulness and alacrity.

Abba Thulle was always approached by his rupacks, or chiefs, with the greatest respect; and his common subjects, whenever they passed near him, put their hands behind them, and crouched towards the ground. The eyes of all beheld their naked prince with as much respect and awe, as those are viewed who rule what are called polished nations, and are decorated with all the dazzling parade and trappings of royalty. Whether in council, or elsewhere, when any message came for the king, if it was brought by one of

the common people, it was delivered at some distance, in a low voice, to one of the inferior rupacks, who bending in an humble posture, at the king's side, repeated the message in a soft tone, with his face turned away. On the king's part, his behaviour was, on all occasions, gentle and gracious. Every day in the afternoon, whether he was at Pelew or with the English at Oroolong, he sat in public, for the purpose of hearing requests, or of adjusting differences which might have arisen among his subjects; and, having heard whatever they had to say to him, by his affability and condescension, he never suffered them to depart

depart dissatisfied. He reigned over them more as the father than the sovereign. His commands appeared to be absolute, yet he never undertook any thing of importance, without advising with his rupacks in council; which was always held in the open air, on a large square pavement, each rupack sitting on a single stone, and the king upon one more elevated than the rest, with another close to it for the occasional support of his arm.

Next in power to the king was Raa Kook, the brother next to him also by birth, and, by the custom there, general of all his forces and heir, the succession of Pelew not go-

ing to the king's children till it had passed through his brothers.

A particular chief, or rupack, who did not appear to possess any hereditary office, but only a delegated authority, constantly attended the king, apparently as the minister. He was always first consulted, but never bore arms.

The rupacks, or chiefs, may be considered in the same light as the European nobles. They wear a bone round one of their wrists, in the form of a bracelet, which being a mark of great honour conferred by the king on officers of state, commanders, or persons who by valour or otherwise have greatly distinguished them-

themselves, is never to be parted with but with life. They are not all of the same degree, as appeared from a difference in the bone they wore. Captain Wilson was invested with the highest order of the bone. The principal rupacks advise with the king in council, and at his command are always ready to accompany him on any expedition, with a number of canoes properly manned and armed.

With respect to property in these islands, a man's house, or canoe, is considered as his own, as is also the land allotted him, as long as he occupies and cultivates it; but, whenever he removes with his family
to

to another place, the ground reverts to the king, who gives it to whom he pleases, or to those who solicit to cultivate it.

The country is well covered with timber trees, the trunk of one of which furnishes the natives with canoes, some large enough to carry thirty men: there are but few other trees of much use to the natives. Yams and cocoa-nuts, being their chief articles of sustenance, are attended to with the utmost care. Amongst his crew captain Wilson had some Chinese, which people are all tolerable botanists, and will pick up a meal almost any where. He sent one of them about the country to
see

see what productions he could meet with ; his report, on his return, was as follows : “ *This have very poor place, and very poor people ; no got cloaths, no got rice, no got hog, no got nothing, only yams, little fish, and cocoa-nut ; no got nothing make trade, very little make eat.* ”—This account however, is more unfavourable than truth demands : there are a few pigeons (which are reserved for people of a certain dignity), and plenty of cocks and hens, though, till informed by the English, the natives knew not that these last were good to eat ; and the sea affords a variety of fish. No four-legged animal was found here, except some wild

wild brownish-grey rats. From the scanty produce of the country, it is plain no luxury can reign amongst the inhabitants in their diet; and the milk of the cocoa-nut was their common drink: on particular occasions they added to their ordinary fare certain sweetmeats and sweet drink, obtained by the aid of a syrup extracted either from the palm-tree or the sugar cane.

The houses are raised about three feet from the ground, the foundation beams being laid on large stones, whence spring the upright supports of their sides, which are crossed by other timbers grooved together, and fastened by wooden pins, the intermediate

mediate spaces being closely filled up with bamboos and palm-trees platted together. In general, the floors are made of very thick plank, between many of which was left the space of an inch or two, for the purpose, perhaps, of sweeping any litter through. Some houses have floors of large bamboo split. On the top of the upright sides, beams are laid across, from which rises the roof, pointed like the English barns, and thatched on the outside with bamboos or palm-leaves. The windows come to the level of the floor, and serve likewise for doors; but, to prevent inconvenience from wind or rain, each of them has a bamboo frame

frame or shutter, interwoven like the sides of the houses, which, sliding on bamboo rods, are easily slipped aside when any one is going in or out. The inside of the house is without any division, forming one great room; and the fire-place commonly in the middle, sunk lower than the floor, the family keeping on one side of it, and the servants on the other.

As to domestic implements, there are little baskets, very nicely woven from slips of the plantain-leaf; and wooden baskets with covers, neatly carved and inlaid with shells. No one ever stirs abroad without a basket, which usually contains some beetle-nut, a comb,

comb, knife, and a little twine. The best knives are made of a piece of the large mother-of-pearl oyster, ground narrow, and the outward side a little polished. Combs are made from the orange tree, (of which there are a few of the Seville kind), the handle and teeth fashioned in the solid wood. The fishing-hooks are of tortoise-shell; and twine, cord, and fishing-nets, are well manufactured from the husks of the cocoa-nut. Of the plantain-leaf are formed mats, which serve the people as beds. They also use a plantain-leaf at meals instead of a plate, and the shell of a cocoa-nut supplies the place of a cup. There are vessels
of

of a kind of earthen ware of a reddish-brown colour, in which they boil their fish, yams, &c. A bundle of cocoa-nut husks, tied together, serves them for a broom; and thick bamboos, with bores five or six inches in diameter, for buckets or cisterns. Their hatchets are not unlike those brought to England from the South-Sea Islands, the blade being made of the strongest part of the large Kima cockle. In addition hereto must be mentioned a few articles which in these islands may be deemed luxuries. The shell of the tortoise is there remarkably beautiful, and the natives of Pelew have discovered the art of moulding it into

into little trays or dishes and spoons. Some of the great ladies have also bracelets of the same manufacture, and ear-rings inlaid with shells.

The natives, in general, are a stout, well-made people, rather above the middling stature, and of a very deep copper colour, but not black. Their hair is long, and generally formed into one large loose curl round their heads. The men are entirely naked; the women wear two little aprons, one before, the other behind. Both men and women are tatooed; and their teeth blacked by a preparation of groundsel and some other herbs, the application of which makes them for a time extremely

tremely sick. In the cartilage between their nostrils is bored a hole, through which they often put any little sprig or blossom which happens to strike their fancy: Both sexes, also, are very expert at swimming; and the men such admirable divers, that they will readily fetch up any thing from the bottom of the sea which attracts their notice.

The conduct of these people towards the English was, from first to last, uniformly courteous and attentive, accompanied with a politeness which surprised those who were the objects of it. They felt our countrymen were distressed, and in
con-

consequence wished them to share whatever they had to give. The English had also many opportunities of observing that this liberality prevailed in all the intercourse the natives had among themselves. The tenderness shewn to the women was remarkable, and the deportment of the men to each other mild and affable; infomuch that, in the various scenes of which they were spectators, the English never saw any-thing which had the appearance of contest or passion; every one seemed to attend to his own concerns, without interfering with the business of his neighbours; herein giving an example which ought to put to the blush

blush the boasted philosophy of Europe. Some of the men were occupied in their plantations, in cutting wood, making hatchets, cords, &c. some in building houses or canoes; others in making nets and fishing tackle; and many more in forming darts, spears, and other warlike weapons. The women attended to domestic concerns, worked in the plantations of yams, and manufactured the mats and baskets. All persons by their daily labour gained their daily sustenance: necessity imposing this exertion, no idle or indolent people were seen, not even among those whom superior rank might have exempted; on the contrary,

trary, these excited their inferiors to toil and activity by their own example. The king himself was the best maker of hatchets in the island, and was usually at work whenever disengaged from matters of importance. In such scenes of patient industry the years of fleeting life passed on; and the chearful disposition of the natives fully authorize the conclusion, that few of their hours are either irksome or oppressive.

Raa Kook and Arra Kooker, brothers to the king, were amongst the natives who first discovered the English on the island Oroolong after their being wrecked, and who immediately conceived the greatest affection

fection and friendship for them: Raa Kook seemed to be above forty years of age, was of a middling height, rather corpulent, and had a countenance marked with great sensibility and good-nature. As the elder brother, he was the king's next heir, and general of the forces. His character was firm and resolute, yet full of humanity: he was steady and persevering in whatever he undertook: he delivered his orders to the people with the greatest mildness, yet would be obeyed; and they, as if mingling affection with duty, never failed to serve him with alacrity and ardour. Whilst, on one hand, the rank of
this

this amiable chief enabled him to be of essential service to the English; on the other, he shewed perfect satisfaction and pleasure in whatever they did for him; he delighted in their company, and courted their information, for he had an eager spirit of enquiry, was very minute in his observations, desired to examine the nature of every thing he saw, and comprehended whatever was described to him with the greatest facility and quickness. He was always pleasant and lively, well disposed to laughter when it was occasionally excited, and sometimes excited it himself. Having once been presented with a pair of trowsers and

D

an

an uniform coat, he immediately put them on, not a little pleased in appearing like his new acquaintance, often looking at himself, and calling out, "Raa Kook Englees! Raa "Kook Englees!" He would sit at table as they did, instead of squatting on his hams, (as is the custom of his country,) and endeavour to accommodate himself to their manners in all respects. In short, he impressed them with great regard for him from the first, and in truth they found him to be a man of an upright character and steady friendship in every transaction they afterwards had with him.

Arra Kooker was near forty years of age, of stout stature, and so plump
and

and fat that he was almost as broad as he was long. He possessed a fund of humour, and a particular turn for mimicry. He could by no means relish the wearing trowsers, but conceiving a passion for a white shirt, one was accordingly given to him: this he had no sooner put on, than he began to dance and jump about with so much glee, that all were highly diverted with his ridiculous gestures, and the contrast which the colour of the linen formed with that of his skin. He would frequently amuse our countrymen by taking off every one of them in any particularity he had noticed; and sometimes would put a hat on his head, and imitate the manner of their walking

in their military exercise, and nothing that he observed done by them escaped him. The English had saved from the Antelope a large Newfoundland dog, named Sailor, which afforded equal surprise and delight to all the natives who saw him, and they often used to divert themselves by making him bark. Arra Kooker was accustomed to carry him victuals, whence the dog naturally expressed great joy on seeing him; and the humorous prince would often add to his other amusements by imitating wonderfully well the barking, howling, jumping, and all the various demonstrations of joy of this poor animal.—Indeed, he had

had S
his e
the c
S
work
be t
that
read
happ
to p
they
them
Thu
Oroo
T
of b
in h
ry

had Sailor so much at heart, that, on his earnest and repeated entreaties, the creature was at last given to him.

So unremittingly had the English worked on the vessel which was to be the means of their deliverance, that by the 9th of November it was ready for launching, and this being happily accomplished, they began to put on board every thing which they judged would be necessary to them in their voyage. By Abba Thulle's desire she was called the Oroolong.

Throughout the whole progress of building the vessel, the king had, in his visits to the English, been very attentive to their manner of

D 3

working ;

working ; he would stand by for a considerable time together, and let not the most trivial circumstance escape his observation. He was now come to Oroolong, with some of his chiefs to be present at their departure. In the evening of the day after the vessel was launched, he entered very seriously into conversation with captain Wilson : he said, that, notwithstanding he was looked up to by his subjects with respect, and regarded as their superior as well in knowledge as in rank, yet, after mixing with the English, and being witness of their ingenuity, he was often conscious of his own insignificance, in beholding
the

the meanest of them exercise talents to which he had ever been a stranger; and that, therefore, after due consideration, he had come to the resolution of committing his second son, whose name was

LEE BOO,

to the captain's care, in order that he might enjoy the advantage of acquiring improvement himself, by accompanying the English, and also of learning many things, which, on his return, might prove of essential benefit to his country. He then spoke of his son as a youth of a gentle and amiable disposition, sensible, and possessing many good qualities. He said he had recalled him from a distant

distant place, where he had been under the care of an old man ; that he was at that time taking leave of his friends at Pelew, and would come to Oroolong the next day. He added that one of the Malays from Pelelew should accompany him as a servant. Raha Kook and Arra Kooker joined in commendation of their nephew.

To this address of the King's, captain Wilson answered, that he was exceedingly honoured and obliged by the singular mark of confidence and esteem he had mentioned ; that he should have considered himself bound in gratitude to take care of any person belonging to Pelew.

Pelew
to se
he
that
the
treat
fame
his c
this a
facti
A
day,
much
lish,
tain
as fo
" wh
" of

Pelew whom he might think proper to send; but, in the case proposed, he wished solemnly to assure him, that he should endeavour to merit the high trust reposed in him, by treating the young prince with the same affection and tenderness as his own son.—It was evident that this answer gave the king great satisfaction.

After this, the discourse of the day, as might be expected, turning much on the departure of the English, Abba Thulle addressed captain Wilson, as they sat together, as follows: “ You are going, and
“ when gone, I fear the inhabitants
“ of Artingall will come down in
“ great

“ great numbers, and molest me;
“ as they have done frequently be-
“ fore; and having lost the aid of
“ the English, I shall be unable to
“ resist them, unless you will leave
“ me a few of your musquets, which
“ you have already taught me to
“ hope you would.”

As a testimony of the gratitude the crew owed this worthy man, and as a means of rendering him service after their departure, by arming him against his enemies, it had been intended to leave with Abba Thulle, on quitting the island, whatever fire-arms they could spare: on this request, therefore, they now presented him, in addition to some working

work
they
quett
powe
prop
son
when
to be
ten b
At
had
of se
land
the
one
nam
sign
nary

working implements and other things they had given him before, five muskets, five cutlasses, a barrel of gunpowder, and gun-flints and ball in proportion; to which Captain Wilson added his own fowling-piece, wherewith his royal friend seemed to be particularly pleased, having often been witness of its effects.

At the same time that Abba Thulle had been meditating upon the design of sending his son LEE BOO to England, that of remaining behind with the natives had been formed by one of the English seamen, whose name was Madan Blanchard; a design, in which, however extraordinary it may seem, he persisted, notwithstanding

withstanding the captain used many arguments to persuade him to drop it. At length, finding it in vain to attempt to alter his resolution, the captain judged it prudent to let him follow his own inclination, and to ingratiate him as much as possible in the good-will of the natives, as well as to make a merit of necessity, by representing the leaving him behind as a favour done the king, Blanchard had made one of the number of Englishmen who had attended the king in the expeditions already mentioned; and there was something in the country or the people which operated so powerfully on his imagination, that, on his return
from

from
decl
wou
in a
ting
shou
amo
fuin
capt
of in
in th
whic
prom
tro
plan
In
vem
long
ther,

from the first fight at Artingall, he declared to his companions, that he would most readily take his share in all the labour of building and fitting out the new vessel, but that he should remain and end his days among the natives of Pelew. Pursuing the idea before mentioned, capt. Wilson took an opportunity of imparting the matter to the king in the manner he had proposed, with which he was so well pleased, that he promised, on Blanchard's being introduced, to give him a house and plantations, and make him a rupack.

In the evening of the 11th of November LEE BOO arrived at Oroolong, and was introduced by his father, first to capt. Wilson, and then

E

to

to his officers. He approached them all in so easy and affable a manner, and with such sensibility and good humour in his countenance, that every one immediately became prepossessed in his favour, and felt the commencement of that interest for him, which his amiable manners daily increased. He was brought by his elder brother, whose name was Qui Bill; a youth about 21 years of age, extremely well made, but having lost his nose, which might have been accidentally carried off in battle by a spear, or destroyed by a scrophulous disorder, which the surgeon of the Antelope, Mr. Sharp, found to prevail among the natives.

With

W
Pelew
dozen
ple,
crimso
is calle
radise
ken o
comin
son ga
of his
had n
careful
passeng
Ever
board
the nex
captain

With Lee Boo was brought from Pelew a basket, containing some dozens of a fruit resembling an apple, of an oblong shape, and a deep crimson colour, somewhat like what is called in England the Dutch Paradise Apple. This fruit was spoken of as very rare, and just then coming into season. Captain Wilson gave one of the apples to each of his officers, being such as they had not seen before: the rest he carefully reserved to treat his young passenger with during his voyage.

Every requisite being now put on board the vessel, and the wind fair, the next day was appointed by the captain for the affecting scene of

E 2 bidding

bidding a last adieu to those friendly islanders to whom he and his crew were so much indebted, and who much wished for their longer stay; but the captain was fearful of not reaching China soon enough to secure a passage in some of the English ships on their return to Europe that season. Abba Thulle, therefore, lost no time; he entered into long discourse with his son, giving him instructions how to conduct himself, and what he was to attend to; and telling him, amongst his many other good counsels, that he was thenceforward to consider captain Wilson as another father, and win his affection by observing his

his advice. Here, turning to the captain, he said, "When LEE BOO got to England, he would have such fine things to see, that he might chance to slip away from him, to run after novelty ; but that he hoped the captain would keep him as much as he could under his eye, and endeavour to moderate the eagerness of his youth."

And after further conversation relative to the confidence placed in him, the unlettered king of Cooroora concluded his recommendation in nearly the following expressions, which must make their way to the heart of every reader of the least sensibility. " I would wish
" you,"

“ you,” said he to captain Wilson,
“ to inform LEE BOO of all things
“ which he ought to know, and
“ make him an Englishman.—The
“ subject of parting with my son I
“ have frequently revolved ; I am
“ well aware that the distant coun-
“ tries he must go through, differ-
“ ing much from his own, may ex-
“ pose him to dangers, as well as to
“ diseases that are unknown to us
“ here, in consequence of which he
“ may die ;—I have prepared my
“ thoughts to this ;—I know that
“ death is to all men inevitable, and
“ whether my son meets this event
“ at Pelew, or elsewhere, is imma-
“ terial. I am satisfied, from what
“ I have

"I have observed of the humanity
"of your character, that, if he is
"sick, you will be kind to him;
"and, should that happen, which
"your utmost care cannot prevent,
"let it not hinder you, or your bro-
"ther, or your son, or any of your
"countrymen, returning here; I
"shall receive you, or any of your
"people, in friendship, and rejoice
"to see you again."

Who is not struck with this demonstration of the great strength of Abba Thulle's rational faculties, as well as the purity and liberality of his sentiments!

Captain Wilson repeated his assurance, that he should take the same

care of LEE BOO as of his own child, and that nothing should be wanting on his part to manifest, in his attention to the son, the gratitude and regard he should ever feel for the father.

The time of departure being so near, the captain took an opportunity of conversing with Blanchard on the subject of being left behind. He set before him the manner in which he should conduct himself towards the natives, and in what respects he could be instructive and beneficial to them; particularly in working such iron as had been given to them, and what more they might yet be able to obtain from the wreck.

And,

And as, in gratitude to their preservers, the English had given them, for their future defence against their enemies, all the arms and ammunition not absolutely necessary for their own safety, so the captain recommended it to Blanchard, as a thing of the utmost consequence, to take especial care to keep them in proper order. He very prudently counselled him never to go naked like the natives, as, by adhering to the form of dress his countrymen had appeared in, he would always maintain a superiority of character ; and that he might the better follow this advice, Blanchard was furnished with all the cloaths that

E 5

could

could be spared, and directed, when those were worn out, to make himself trowsers of a mat, which he could always get from the natives, and thereby preserve that decency he had always been used to. Nor did the captain forget, in his instructions, to enjoin an attention to religious matters: he urged Blanchard, by the most earnest exhortations, not to neglect those acts of devotion which he had been taught to practise, and to be careful to observe a Sabbath or Sunday, and perform those christian duties wherein he had been educated; for the captain had always endeavoured to impress a due sense of religion upon
his

his crew, and never failed publicly to read prayers to them every Sunday. Lastly, Blanchard was desired to ask for any thing he thought likely to be of comfort and use to him; when he requested to have one of the ship's compasses; and, as the pin-nace was intended to be left for Abba Thulle, he wished that the oars, sails, masts, and every-thing belonging to her might likewise be left; all which were promised him.

In the morning of the 12th of November, one of the swivel guns, which had been saved from the wreck, was fired, and an English jack hoisted at the mast-head of the vessel, as a signal for sailing; which
being

being explained to the king, he forthwith ordered to be taken on board yams, cocoa-nuts, sweet-meats, and other things provided for the voyage; besides which there was a profusion of provision in many canoes belonging to the natives lying along-side the Oroolong.

When the vessel was loaded with as many of the friendly offerings as could with any conveniency be taken on board, and got quite ready for sea, the boat was sent for the captain, who was on shore. This circumstance being made known to the king, he signified that he and his son would presently go on board in his canoe. Then the captain, taking

2

taking Blanchard, and the men who had come on shore for him, into one of the temporary houses, besought the former to impress on his memory the advice he had before given him, and particularly to be observant of his duty to his Creator, that the people of Pelew might thereby perceive he retained that faith and sense of religion in which he had been trained. In conclusion the captain made the seamen present kneel down with him, and unite in praises and thanksgivings to that Supreme Being who had not only graciously supported their spirits in the midst of severe toils and dangers, but had now opened to them the means

means of deliverance. Abba Thulle and his chiefs, who were near the entrance of the house, observed and understood the meaning of this act of devotion, and preserved a profound silence.

At eight o'clock in the morning, the captain went on board in his boat; and soon afterwards was followed by the king, his son LEE BOO, and such rupacks as were with him. The little vessel was so deeply laden with sea stores, that a doubt arose whether she could be got over the reef which had proved fatal to the Antelope, and runs along the west side of the Pelew Islands: it was therefore determined to lighten her

her b
had
M
the
to c
tra
defin
spec
arriv
now
to l
parti
men
him,
what
In
to ri
ved,

her by landing two six-pounders they had on board.

Mr. Sharp, the surgeon, who, as the person whose profession it was to cure diseases, had particularly attracted the king's notice, had been desired to take LEE Boo under his special care till the Oroolong should arrive at China, and Abba Thulle now pointed out that gentleman to his son as his *fucalic*, that is, particular friend; and from that moment LEE Boo attached himself to him, keeping close at his side in whatever part of the vessel he went.

In adjusting and setting all things to rights before the Oroolong moved, a small sail belonging to the pinnace

pinnace was missed. Blanchard was got into that boat, in order to take the Oroolong in tow. He had kept his word; with unwearied assiduity he had to the last given his countrymen every assistance in his power, and, having carefully laid up the sail enquired after, went on board to shew where he had put it; which being done, he wished them a prosperous voyage, and, however strange it may seem, without discovering the least degree of regret, took leave of all his old shipmates with as much complacency as if they had been only about to sail from London to Gravesend, to come back with the next tide.

At

At length the Oroolong was put in motion, and advanced towards the reef. Loaded as she had been by Abba Thulle's bounty, even to superfluity, with every thing he thought might be useful or agreeable to his departing friends, still on each side of her were a multitude of canoes; full of the common natives, who had all brought presents from themselves, intreating they might be accepted. In vain were they told there was no room in the vessel for any thing more; each held up a little something—"Only this from me! Only this from me!"—was the general cry; which was repeated with such sup-
plicating

plicating countenances and watery eyes, that this fascinating testimony of generosity and affection almost got the better of every body on board. A few yams or cocoa-nuts were accepted from some of the nearest ; and those poor creatures, whose intreaties could not be listened to, unable to endure the disappointment, paddled a-head, and threw their little presents into the pinnace, not knowing that she was to return back with Blanchard.

Can this picture of pure friendship at Pelew be exceeded by any other in the known world !

A-head of the pinnace went several canoes, to mark the safest track for
the

the v
at th
water
which
ly and
barrie
Ab
Engli
reef b
canoe
now
perou
leave
blessin
found
Willfor
directi
till he

the vessel; and others were stationed at the reef, to point out the deepest water for her passage over it; by which precautions the Oroolong safely and easily cleared that formidable barrier.

Abba Thulle accompanied the English in their vessel almost to the reef before he made the signal for his canoe to come along-side. And now wishing him happy and prosperous, he most affectionately took leave of LEE BOO, and gave him his blessing—it was received with profound respect. Seeing Captain Wilson engaged in giving some directions to his people, he stopped till he was perfectly at liberty; then
went

went up to him, and embraced him with the greatest tenderness, shewing, by his voice and looks, how distressed he was to bid him farewell. In the most cordial manner he shook hands with all the officers, saying, "You are happy because you are going home—I am happy to find you are happy—but still very unhappy myself to see you are going away." Then, assuring the crew of his ardent wishes for their successful voyage, he went over the side of the vessel into his canoe. As the canoes drew together, surrounding that of the king, the natives all eagerly looked up as if to bid adieu, while their countenances

nano
their
more
Engl
a wh
deep
by th
Abba
back
ly ab
and
catch
man
felt
where
delive
as we

nances imparted the feelings of their benevolent hearts in looks far more expressive than language. The English might truly say that they left a whole people in tears; indeed, so deeply were they themselves affected by this interesting scene, that when Abba Thulle and his retinue turned back to Oroolong, they were scarcely able to give them three cheers; and their eyes followed them to catch the latest look, whilst every man amongst them with gratitude felt the efficacy of his services, whereby, in a great measure, their deliverance had been brought about, as well as the sincerity of his friendship,

ship, which had continued firm and unshaken to the last.

Most of the chiefs had left the Oroolong with the king, except Raa Kook, and a few of his attendants, who would see her clear of danger to the outside of the reef. The outside of the reef had been some time attained, Raa Kook had remained pensive, and the vessel proceeded a considerable way, before he recollected himself, and summoned his canoes to return.—The pin-nace being now brought to the side of the Oroolong, the captain and officers prepared themselves to take leave of this amiable personage ;
but

but
arriv
for a
speak
and
heart
pain
was
on b
trefs.
name
but,
he w
diate
those
tiona
T
have

but when the moment of separation arrived, he was so affected that for a short time he was unable to speak—he took them by the hand, and pointing with the other to his heart, said *it was there he felt the pain* of bidding them farewell: nor was this scene witnessed by any one on board, who did not share its distress. He addressed LEE BOO by name, and said a few words to him; but, finding he could not proceed, he went into the boat, when immediately quitting the rope, he gave those he had just left a last affectionate look,—then dropped astern.

This worthy chief would fain have accompanied our people to
England,

England, and before their vessel was launched had actually asked the king's permission so to do; but from the circumstance of his being the heir apparent, the inconvenience that would arise in case of Abba Thulle's death, in his absence, was a prudential reason that prevented its being granted. Raa Kook's good sense convinced him of the justness of it, and he acquiesced—but his wish remained the same. To this their first and truly valuable friend, the English presented a brace of pistols, and a cartouch-box loaded with the proper cartridges, at their last interview.

Having now parted from all their friends

friends of Pelew, the crew pursued their voyage towards China with tolerable weather. The first night LEE BOO slept on board, he ordered his Malay servant, whose name was Boyam, to bring his mat upon deck; a warmer covering was, however, prepared to defend him against the cold. The next morning no land was to be seen, which much surprised him. Captain Wilson now clothed him in a shirt, waistcoat, and pair of trowsers, the two first articles of which seemed to be very uneasy to him, and he soon took those off, folded them up, and used them only as a pillow: but imbibing an idea of the indelicacy of having no

F

cloathing,

cloathing, he never appeared without his trowsers; and as the vessel, by steering northward, advanced into a climate gradually becoming colder, he felt less and less inconvenience in resuming the use of his jacket and shirt, and the dislike he had to them lost itself in his new-taught sense of propriety, which daily increasing, soon became too powerful to suffer him to change his dress in the presence of another person, and he would afterwards always retire for that purpose to some dark corner where he could not be seen.—At first the motion of the vessel made him sea-sick, insomuch that he was obliged frequently to lie down.

On

On his growing better, one of the apples, which was brought to Oroolong at the time of his arrival there, was given him : he hesitated to eat it, till he was told that such was the captain's desire, and that Abba Thulle had sent them for him; when he observed to Boyam, his servant, that he was much indulged, as none but a few great people had his father's permission to eat of this fruit. This remark corresponds with Abba Thulle's telling Captain Wilson, on giving him these apples, that they were a great rarity.

On the 16th of November, being Sunday, prayers were devoutly read, in the forenoon, upon deck,

the crew having too deep a sense of the mercies of Providence in their happy delivery, not to offer them publicly, and with hearts full of gratitude.

LEE BOO was remarkably clean in his person, washing himself several times every day.—There is a saying of great importance and well worthy of attention, that “cleanliness is next to godliness.” It may not be estimating cleanliness too highly, to regard it as being no less essential to the health of the body than godliness is to that of the soul. However, no one can pretend not to admire and prefer it to filthiness, which yet so much more prevails, especially

especially amongst the poorer class of people: but, surely, this is the result of a sluggish, indolent habit, rather than of necessity, as, though cloathed in rags they may be *clean*.

Our young voyager was by this time so well recovered, as to eat a flying-fish which was caught upon deck, and some yam, having before eaten very little. He told Boyam, that he was sensible his father and family had been very unhappy from knowing that he had been sick. When he was quite recovered from his illness, he appeared to be perfectly easy and contented.

In the morning of the 25th, at day-light, the vessel came in sight of the Bashee Islands at about three leagues distance. LEE BOO was much pleased at the circumstance, and eagerly desired to know their names; which being repeated to him until he could pronounce them, he took a piece of line, and tied a knot in it in remembrance of the event. It is the custom of the people in the Pelew Islands to make remarks by tying knots in a line, and LEE BOO had brought with him the one he now used for that purpose.

Having pursued their course without interruption, on Friday the 28th,
the

the voyagers saw several Chinese fishing boats, and next morning land: they stood in amongst the islands, as the wind would permit, till six o'clock in the evening, when they anchored in the midst of some small Chinese vessels; LEE BOO being quite delighted with viewing the land and the number of boats upon the water.

On the 30th in the morning, captain Wilson procured a pilot to conduct their vessel between the islands to Macao, where lived Mr. McIntyre, a gentleman from whom the captain had received many testimonies of friendship when before at that place in the Antelope. To him

him therefore captain Wilson repaired upon his arrival. Mr. M'Intyre was no sooner informed of the sad misfortune which had befallen his friend, than, with his wonted generosity, he ordered such provisions and other necessaries as they might stand in need of to be sent on board the vessel to the officers and people, whilst the captain wrote to the Company's supercargoes, who were then all at Canton, to acquaint them with his situation.

LEE Boo was astonished on seeing the Portuguese ships at Macao: he cried out, as he looked at them, *Cow, clow, muc clow, ! that is, Large, large,*

large
here
ing
min
ed
their
back
the
ing
Boo
their
ges,
atten
what
T
and a
panie
Oroo

large, very large! The English had here an early opportunity of observing the natural benevolence of his mind. Some Chinese boats, rowed by poor Tartar women, with their little children tied to their backs, surrounding the vessel, and the poor creatures in them petitioning for fragments of victuals, LEE BOO was very anxious to relieve their necessities, giving them oranges, and selecting, with particular attention, from such things as he had, whatever he liked best himself.

The next morning, Mr. M'Intyre and a Portuguese gentleman accompanied the captain on board the Oroolong, taking with them a variety

riety of refreshments and provisions ready dressed. In the evening they returned on shore, together with LEE BOO, and all the officers, except the chief mate, who remained with the men to take care of the vessel.

The Portuguese gentleman was very much pleased with the Pelew prince, and, when on shore, requested that the *new man*, as he called him, might be permitted to visit his family; and his house being the first the young traveller had ever entered, he seemed to be lost in silent admiration. The upright walls and flat cielings greatly perplexed him, as he did not comprehend how they could be formed; and
the

the decorations of the rooms also struck him with no small degree of astonishment. On being introduced to the ladies of the family, his deportment was so easy and polite, as to be exceeded only by his abundant good-nature: he was not in the least embarrassed; he allowed the company to examine his hands, which were tatooed, and appeared pleased with the notice he excited.

The idea conceived by those who were witnesses of LEE BOO's first introduction to fashionable life, was, that, how great soever might be the surprize which the scenes of a new world might occasion in him it could scarcely be exceeded by that
which

which his own amiable manners and native polish would create in others.

After this visit, Mr. M'Intyre conducted captain Wilson and his companions to his own house, where they were ushered into a large hall lighted up, with a table in the middle covered for supper, and a side-board very handsomely decorated. A new scene now burst at once on LEE BOO's mind ; he was all eye, all admiration—the vessels of glass were, in a manner enchantment itself. Mr. M'Intyre pointed out to him whatever he thought likely to amuse him ; but every thing around him was attracting ; his eye, and his mind, were alike bewildered—in truth,

truth, all was to him a fairy tale, a scene of magic. At the upper end of the hall was a large mirror, which reflected almost his whole person. Here Lee Boo stood in perfect amazement at seeing himself—he laughed—he drew back—he returned to look again, quite absorbed in wonder. He tried to look behind, as if conceiving somebody to be there, but found the glass fixed close to the wall. Upon this, Mr. M'Intyre ordered a small glass to be brought, wherein, having viewed his face, Lee Boo looked behind, to discover the person who looked at him, totally unable to account for so strange an effect.

G

After

After passing an evening rendered pleasant and cheerful by the hospitality of their host and the simplicity of Lee Boo, the gentlemen retired for the night: whether the prince passed it in sleep, or in reflecting upon the occurrences of the preceding day, is not certain; but it is very possible the next morning he recollected them in that confused manner in which we recal the traces of dreams.

The following day Lee Boo had more leisure for examination: the upright walls and flat ceilings were still objects of surprize to him: the walls he was continually feeling, as if by that means to acquire some
idea

idea
cielin
ed, f
the m
By
tyre,
cessa
for th
they
guard
who
In p
stood
Lee B
them
which
thoug
string

idea of their construction ; but the cielings, self-supported as he imagined, seemed at that time quite beyond the reach of his comprehension.

By the good offices of Mr. M'Intyre, a house, servants, and other necessaries, were provided at Macao, for the crew of the Oroolong, and they all came on shore, leaving a guard of one officer and a few men, who at due times were changed. In purchasing such things as they stood in need of, they did not forget Lee Boo, who was a favourite with them all. Amongst other trinkets, which, from their novelty they thought would please him, was a string of large glass beads, the sight

whereof threw him almost into an ecstasy: he hugged them with a transport which could not be equalled by that of the interested possessor of a string of pearls of the same magnitude—his imagination told him he had in his hands all the wealth the world could afford—he ran with eagerness to captain Wilson to shew him his riches, and, enraptured with the idea of his family's sharing them with him, in the utmost agitation of spirits, intreated the captain “ immediately to get him a
“ Chinese vessel, to carry his treasures to Pelew, and deliver them
“ to the king, that he might distribute them as he thought proper,
“ and

“ a
“ th
“ to
“ w
“ th
“ fe
“ th
“ if
“ th
“ w
“ th
“ tu
“ re
py f
who
such
In
recei

“and thereby see what a country
“the English had conveyed him
“to;” adding “that the people
“who carried them should inform
“the king that Lee Boo would soon
“send him other presents.” He
“then assured captain Wilson, that,
“if the people faithfully executed
“their charge, he would, besides
“what Abba Thulle might give
“them, present them, on their re-
“turn, with one or two beads, as a
“reward for their fidelity.”—Happy
state of simplicity and innocence,
whose pleasures can be purchased on
such easy terms!

In a short time captain Wilson
received letters from the supercar-

goes, expressing their concern for the misfortunes of the crew, and advising the disposal of the vessel and stores. These letters were accompanied with warm cloaths, and a variety of other necessaries. Mr. M'Intyre received letters also, desiring him to furnish them with money, &c.

At Macao Lee Boo had frequent opportunities of seeing people of different nations; in particular, three English women, who were waiting there for a passage to Europe, and whom he preferred to any other of the fair sex he had seen.

There being no quadrupeds at Pelew, excepting the rats already mentioned,

mentioned, the Newfoundland dog and a spaniel the crew had also saved from the wreck were the only four legged creatures known to Lee Boo; the sheep, goats, and other cattle, therefore, which he met with at Macao, were novelties that greatly excited his surprize. The Newfoundland dog, which had attracted so much notice, and become the property of his uncle Arra Kooker, being called *Sailor*, he applied that word to every animal which had four legs; so that, seeing some horses, he called them *Clow Sailor*, that is, *Great Sailor*. The next day, observing a man on horseback pass the house, he was himself so won-

derfully astonished, that he wanted every one to go out and see the strange sight too. He afterwards went to the stables where the horses were; he felt, he stroaked them, and was very inquisitive to know what their food was, as he had found they would not eat oranges, of which he had offered them some he had in his pocket. He was easily persuaded to mount one of them; and, on being informed what a noble, docile, and useful animal it was, he with great solicitude besought captain Wilson to get one sent to his uncle Raha Kook, to whom he was sure it would be of great service.

The crew were waiting at Macao
for

for
to C
of t
ging
a pa
mat
only
at M
L
to k
on b
chain
bulk
all f
his e
ed to
was
that

for a permit and boats to carry them to Canton, when captain Churchill, of the Walpole, arriving, was so obliging as to accommodate them with a passage up to Whampoa, the chief mate, and five or six of the men, only, remaining with the Oroolong at Macao till she should be sold.

Lee Boo found sufficient matter to keep his mental faculties awake on board the Walpole; the furniture, chairs, tables, lamps, the upright bulkheads, and deck over head, were all surprising. After silently casting his eyes over these objects, he whispered to captain Wilson, that *Clow ship* was *house*. It is to be presumed, that nothing on board the Walpole

G 5 escaped

escaped his notice, as it was evident nothing on shore did. At Canton, being at the Company's table at the factory, his admiration was much excited by the vessels of glass, of various shapes and sizes, particularly the chandeliers. Having surveyed the numerous attendants behind the gentlemen's chairs, as well as the profuse variety of provisions and liquors, he remarked to captain Wilson, that, " the king his father
" lived in a manner very different,
" having only a little fish, a yam,
" or a cocoa-nut, which he eat from
" off a leaf, and drank out of the
" shell of the nut, and when his
" meal was finished, wiped his
" mouth

“mouth and his fingers with a bit
“of cocoa-nut husk ; whereas the
“company present eat a bit of one
“thing, and then a bit of another,
“the servants always supplying
“them with a different plate, and
“different sorts of vessels to drink
“out of.” He seemed to relish tea
from the first : coffee he refused, as
he did not like the smell of it, yet at
the same time saying “ he would
“drink it, if captain Wilson order-
“ed him.” An incident at Macao
gave him an aversion to all kinds of
spirits. One of the seamen being
much intoxicated, Lee Boo, sup-
posing him very ill, in great concern
applied to Mr. Sharp to relieve him.

On

On being informed of the nature of his ailment, that it was merely the effect of a liquor in which common people were apt to indulge, and would soon go off of itself, his anxiety subsided ;—but he would never afterwards even taste spirits, saying, when offered any, “ it was not “ drink fit for gentlemen.” Indeed, as to eating and drinking, he observed great temperance in both: —How quick was the light of wisdom and virtue kindled in the breast of this young man !—Upon the first intimation, he instantly conceived the pernicious effects of drinking spirits, and resolved to guard himself against contracting so vile

vile an habit.—There is scarcely a trait in his character, but gives a proof of correct judgment, or a lesson of eminent morality.

The vessel having been sold at Macao, Mr. Benger, and the men who remained with him, accompanied by Mr. M'Intyre, went up to Canton in one of the country boats. When they arrived there, Lee Boo happened to be breakfasting at a window which looked towards the water: the instant he caught a distant view of them, without uttering a syllable to any one, he sprang from his seat, and was at the edge of the river before the boat reached the shore: he received them
with

with the utmost eagerness and joy, shook their hands with the warmest expressions of affection, and manifested the greatest impatience to get them into the house, fearing that from their staying behind they had not fared so well as himself.

During Lee Boo's stay at Canton, several gentlemen, who had been at Madagascar, and some other places where the throwing of the spear is practised, and who had themselves a considerable degree of skill in the art, expressed a desire of seeing him perform this exercise, and a meeting was appointed at the hall of the factory for the purpose. Lee Boo did not at first point his spear to any particular

particular object, but only shook and poised it, as is usual before throwing it from the hand. This also the gentlemen were able to do. But it being proposed to aim at some particular point, they fixed upon a gauze cage, which hung up in the hall, and had a bird painted in the middle, as their mark. Lee Boo took up his spear with much seeming indifference, levelled at the little bird, and struck it through the head, to the amazement of all his competitors, who, at the great distance whence they flung, could not without much difficulty, hit even the cage.—An undeniable proof this of the wonderful effect of habit and

and practice. The spear is a weapon in use among most uncivilized nations not acquainted with fire-arms, whose common exercise from childhood to manhood is the throwing of it, in which they acquire a degree of skill which sets all competition at defiance. Early and constant application, therefore, is the natural means by which excellence is to be attained.

Lee Boo was much delighted with the stone buildings and spacious rooms of the houses at Canton ; the flat cielings, however, still continued to be marvellous in his eyes : he often contrasted them with the sloping thatched roofs at Pelew, and said, that

tha
 " P
 " c
 " P
 " o
 serv
 he f
 adv
 cou
 A
 for
 man
 carg
 glafs
 Boo'
 duce
 him
 were

that, "by the time he went back, " he should have learnt how it was " done, and would then tell the people there in what manner they " ought to build." In all his observations, the grand consideration he seemed to have at heart, was the advantage and improvement of his country.

Amongst the things brought in for tea at the house of Mr. Freeman, one of the Company's supercargoes, was a sugar-dish of blue glass, which greatly striking Lee Boo's fancy, that gentleman was induced, when tea was over, to take him into another room, where there were two barrels of the same kind of blue

and practice. The spear is a weapon in use among most uncivilized nations not acquainted with fire-arms, whose common exercise from childhood to manhood is the throwing of it, in which they acquire a degree of skill which sets all competition at defiance. Early and constant application, therefore, is the natural means by which excellence is to be attained.

Lee Boo was much delighted with the stone buildings and spacious rooms of the houses at Canton ; the flat cieling, however, still continued to be marvellous in his eyes : he often contrasted them with the sloping thatched roofs at Pelew, and said,
that

that, "by the time he went back, "he should have learnt how it was "done, and would then tell the people there in what manner they "ought to build." In all his observations, the grand consideration he seemed to have at heart, was the advantage and improvement of his country.

Amongst the things brought in for tea at the house of Mr. Freeman, one of the Company's supercargoes, was a sugar-dish of blue glass, which greatly striking Lee Boo's fancy, that gentleman was induced, when tea was over, to take him into another room, where there were two barrels of the same kind of blue

blue glass, (holding about two quarts each,) placed on brackets: the alluring colour again caught his eye: he gazed at them with much eagerness—went away—returned to them with new delight. Mr. Freeman, observing to what excess he was captivated by these articles, told him he would make him a present of them, and that he should carry them to Pelew. This threw him into such an extacy, that he could scarcely contain himself: he declared, that, on his return, Abba Thulle should possess so great a treasure; and he wished his relations could but have a view of them; he was sure they would be lost in astonishment at the sight.

Captain

his
tun
of
duc
equ
don
wer
selve
yet
part
Eng
they
com
had
Com
shou
himf

Captain Wilson now laid before his companions in adverse fortune a statement of what the sale of the ship, stores, &c. had produced, and divided the whole in equal shares amongst them. This done, he acquainted them that they were at liberty to provide for themselves as opportunity should offer, yet recommending to them all, but particularly his officers, to return to England, where, he had no doubt, they would, in some measure, be recompensed for the hardships they had undergone, by the Honourable Company, to whom he said he should duly represent (what he felt himself in the highest degree obliged to

to them for) the good order, unanimity, and excellent conduct they had persevered in throughout the trying scenes they had experienced together, which had afforded them an opportunity of so zealously testifying their regard for the general service.

Mr. Sharp, to whose immediate care, as hath been mentioned, Lee Boö was committed on leaving Oroolong, now resigned his charge to captain Wilton, and came home in the Lascelles Indiaman, captain Wakefield; the other officers and men engaged in different ships, as vacancies occurred; but the greater part of the latter embarked in the York, captain Blanchard.

As

As m
ners
witho
regre
Cap
emba
captai
most
dated
Engla
voyag
that
ness a
so cou
one v
service
the fir
remark

As may be conceived, these partners in distress did not separate without emotions of concern and regret.

Captain Wilson and his charge embarked in the *Morse* Indiaman, captain Joseph Elliott, who in the most friendly manner accommodated them with a passage to England. Throughout the whole voyage Lee Boo was treated by that gentleman with much kindness and attention, and was himself so courteous and pleasant, that every one was ready to render him any service in his power.—This is not the first time the reader may have remarked, in this account of our
young

young traveller, the deep impression a courteous deportment makes on new acquaintance, and the great advantage arising from it:—a fact recommended to the attention of youth in particular, who, generally, seem either not to know or to forget it. Other good qualities may make them esteemed, but they cannot be beloved without an amiability of manners. Mark the rudeness, if not insolence of a schoolboy;—it leaves a defect in his character by no means supplied by his acuteness in learning however great: there is requisite a certain courtesy, not at all incompatible with the gaiety and activity of youth, to interest our
softer

soft
nuin
beha
even
lities
ing.
E
at f
the r
he v
had
and,
he m
time
great
peat
fresh
was o

softer passions in his favour. A genuine sweetness of disposition and behaviour engages the affection, even though the more splendid qualities and attainments may be wanting.

Every ship the Morse met with at sea Lee Boo must needs know the name of: he would repeat what he was told over and over till he had fixed it well in his memory; and, as each enquiry was gratified, he made a knot in his line: but time multiplied these knots so greatly, that he was obliged to repeat his remarks every day to refresh his memory, in doing which he was often under the necessity of applying

plying to captain Wilson or others, on forgetting the circumstance any particular knot referred to. The officers in the *Morse*, with whom only he associated, when they saw him thus employed with his line, used to say he was *reading his journal*. He frequently enquired after all the people in the *Oroolong*, who had gone on board different ships at China, particularly a son of the captain's, who was one of them, and Mr. Sharp.

Lee Boo had been but a short time on the voyage, when he requested captain Wilson to get him a book, and point out to him the letters, that he might learn to read:
the

the
con
this
disc
henf
O
your
with
fortif
men
wards
delig
them
expla
ships
and th
saw in
comm

the captain kindly embraced every convenient opportunity of gratifying this wish, and had the satisfaction of discovering great readiness of apprehension in his young pupil.

On arriving at St. Helena, our young voyager was much struck with the soldiers and cannon on the fortifications; and four English men of war coming in soon afterwards afforded him a sight highly delightful, especially as some of them had two tier of guns. It was explained to him, that this sort of ships was intended only for fighting, and that the others which he then saw in the bay were destined to commercial purposes, by trans-

porting the produce and manufactures of one country to another. Captain Buller, the commander of the *Chaser*, politely took him on board his own and another ship, in order that he might see the men exercised at the great guns and small arms; a sight with which his imagination was exceedingly impressed.

On being taken to a school, he expressed a wish that he could learn like the boys, feeling as he did his deficiency in knowledge.—The truant would do well to compare his own sentiments of schools with those of Lee Boo, who, regarding their aim, the instruction and improvement of mankind, enviably considered them

as institutions beneficial in the highest degree, and glowed with desire to frequent them ; whereas the idler, confining his views to the tasks and application necessarily prescribed, sees not the advantages to be reaped there, but looks upon them, with disgust, as places of drudgery and punishment, and consequently seeks to avoid them. Let him blush, and learn better notions from an untutored native of Pelew.

He desired and was permitted to ride on horseback into the country : he sat well, and galloped without the least fear of falling, and appeared highly gratified both with the novelty and pleasure of the exercise.

In the Company's garden he remarked some shady walks formed with bamboos arching overhead on lattice-work, and was struck with the refreshing coolness they afforded. He observed, "that the people on this island had but little wood, yet applied it to a good purpose; whereas his own countrymen were ignorant of the advantages they might enjoy, having a great abundance, but not knowing in what manner to use it. When he went back, he said, he would speak to the king, tell him how defective they were, and have men set to work on such bowers as he had seen."

Such was the dawn of illumination
in

in I
ness
cato
him
prov
A
ness
frien
islar
ted
dow
pati
evin
sent
atten
him.
A
tish

in Lee Boo's mind ! He felt its darkness, and had the good sense to catch at every ray which might lead him forward to information and improvement.

At St. Helena he had the happiness of an interview with his first friend Mr. Sharp, who arrived at that island in the *Lascelles* before he quitted it. He first saw him from a window, and ran out with extreme impatience to take him by the hand, evincing by his ardour the grateful sentiments he retained of the kind attention that gentleman had shewn him.

As the *Morse* drew near the British channel, the number of vessels,

H 3

pursuing

pursuing their different courses, increased so much, that Lee Boo was obliged to give up keeping his journal; however, he still continued very inquisitive to know whither they were sailing. When the ship reached the Isle of Wight, captain Wilson, his brother, the PRINCE, and several other passengers, left her, and, taking a boat, arrived safe at Portsmouth the 14th of July, 1784. When landed, the variety of houses, the ramparts, and the number and size of the men of war then in the harbour, rivetted Lee Boo's attention; he was so totally wrapped up in wonder, that he had no recollection

collection even to ask any questions.

The officer of the *Morse*, charged with the dispatches, being about to repair immediately to London, captain Wilson, naturally impatient to behold his family, accompanied him, intrusting Lee Boo to the care of his brother, both of whom were to follow in a coach which was to set off in the evening. As soon as he arrived in town, he was carried to captain Wilson's house at Rotherhithe, where, as may be supposed, he was not a little happy in rejoining his adopted father, and being introduced to his family.

Part of his journey from Portsmouth

mouth passed during the night: the return of day, however, brought full employment for his eyes; and he reached what was to be, for some time, his home, in all the natural glow of his youthful spirits. Whatever he had observed in silence, was now eagerly disclosed. He described the circumstances of his journey; said it had been very pleasant—that he had been put into a little house, which was ran away with by horses—that he slept, but still was going on; and whilst he went one way, the fields, houses, and trees, all went another, every thing, from the quickness of travelling, appearing to be in motion.

When,

was
saw
bed.
wha
jump
aside
then
its ou
he w
and
down
land t
Ab
this co
Wilso
friend
Keate,

When, at the hour of rest, he was conducted to his chamber, he saw for the first time, a four-post bed. Scarcely could he conceive what it meant—he jumped in and jumped out again—felt and pulled aside the curtains—got into bed, and then got out a second time, to admire its outward form. At length, when he was fully acquainted with its use and convenience, he laid himself down to sleep, saying, that *in England there was a house for every thing.*

About a week after his arrival in this country he accompanied captain Wilson to dine with a party at a friend's, where he first met George Keate, Esq. the gentleman who has
with

with so much ability written the account at large of the Pelew Islands. Lee Boo was then master of but very little English, yet between words and actions contrived to make himself pretty well understood, and seemed to comprehend the greater part of what was said to him, especially when explained by the captain. He wore his hair in the fashion of his own country, was of a middling stature, and had a countenance so strongly marked with sensibility and good-humour, as instantly to prepossess every one in his favour, and moreover enlivened by eyes so quick and intelligent, that

that
dica
with
Tho
had
coun
of th
Mac
had
pany
the e
ners.
Mr. M
“ He
elegan
“ and
“ or
“ the

that they might truly be said to indicate his thoughts and conceptions without the aid of language. Though Mr. Keate's expectations had been greatly raised by the accounts he had previously received of this *new man*, as he was called at Macao, yet, when that gentleman had been a little time in his company, he was perfectly astonished at the ease and gentleness of his manners. But it will be best here to let Mr. Keate speak in his own person. "He was," says that judicious and elegant writer, "lively and pleasant, "and had a politeness without form "or restraint, which appeared to be "the result of natural good breeding." "ing.

“ing. As I chanced to sit near
“him at table, I paid him a great
“deal of attention, which he seemed
“to be very sensible of. Many
“questions were of course put to
“captain Wilson by the company
“concerning this personage, and
“the country he had brought him
“from, which no European had
“ever visited before: he obligingly
“entered on many particular cir-
“cumstances which were highly in-
“teresting, spoke of the battles in
“which his people had assisted the
“king of Pelew, and of the pecu-
“liar manner the natives had of
“tying up their hair when going to
“war; Lee Boo, who fully under-
stood

“ stood what his friend was ex-
“ plaining, very obligingly, and un-
“ asked, untied his own, and threw
“ it into the form captain Wilson
“ had been describing.—I might
“ tire the reader, were I to enume-
“ rate the trivial occurrences of a few
“ hours, rendered only of conse-
“ quence from the singularity of
“ this young man’s situation ; suf-
“ fice it to say, there was in all his
“ deportment such affability and
“ propriety of behaviour, that, when
“ he took leave of the company,
“ there was hardly one present who
“ did not feel a satisfaction in having
“ had an interview with him.

“ I went to Rotherhithe,” con-
I tinues

tinues Mr. Keate, " a few days af-
" ter, to see captain Wilson ; Lee
" Boo was reading at a window ; he
" recollected me instantly, and flew
" with eagerness to the door to meet
" me, looked on me as a friend,
" and ever after attached himself to
" me, appearing to be happy when-
" ever we met together. In this
" visit I had a good deal of conver-
" sation with him, and we mutu-
" ally managed to be pretty well
" understood by each other : he
" seemed to be pleased with every
" thing about him ; said, *All fine*
" *country, fine street, fine coach, and*
" *house upon house up to sky*, putting
" alternately one hand above another,
" by

“ by which I found (their own habi-
“ tations being all on the ground)
“ that every separate story of our
“ buildings he at that time confi-
“ dered as a distinct house.”

This promising young man was introduced to several of the Directors of the India Company, taken on visits to many of the captain's friends, and gradually shewn most of the public buildings in the metropolis; but captain Willson very prudently avoided taking him to any of the places of public entertainment, for fear of his catching the small pox, a distemper for which it was proposed to inoculate him, as soon as he should become sufficiently acquaint-

ed with the English language to be made fully sensible of the necessity of the measure ; for it was judged, and surely not without good reason, that to bring upon him so troublesome and offensive a disease, without first explaining its nature, and preparing his mind to submit to it, might weaken that unlimited confidence he placed in his adopted father.

After being somewhat habituated to the manners of this country, he went every day to an academy at Rotherhithe for the purpose of being instructed in reading and writing. His application was equal to his intense desire of learning ; and he conducted

ducted himself there with such propriety, and in a manner so engaging, that he gained, not only the esteem of the gentleman under whose tuition he was placed, but also the affection of his young companions—which should ever be a main object with youth at school. When, in the hours of recess, he returned to his home, he diverted all the family by his vivacity, noticing every singularity he had observed in any of his schoolfellows, and with great good-humour imitating and taking them off: sometimes he added, that he would have a school of his own when he returned to Pelew, and should be thought very wise when

he taught the great people their letters.

In addressing Mr. Wilson, he always called him *captain* ; but would never address Mrs. Wilson (for whom he had the most affectionate regard) by any other appellation than *mother*, considering *that* as the most respectful term he could use. Being often told he should say Mrs. Wilson, his constant answer was, *No, no—Mother, mother.*

Wherever Lee Boo was, his observation extended to every thing around him, having an ardent desire of information, which he received with thanks. Upon noticing any new effect, he always expressed a
with

wish to know the cause. A young lady, who happened to be one day in company, where he was, sat down to an harpsicord, to observe in what manner he would be affected by music. He seemed greatly surprised to find so much sound proceed from it: the instrument was opened to let him see its interior construction: he pored over it with much curiosity, took particular notice of the motion of the jacks, and shewed far greater inclination to discover the means by which the sounds were produced, than to attend to the music itself. A Pelew song was afterwards requested of him: he waited not for repeated entreaties, as singers

usually do, but began one immediately. However, in his great exertions, his breast laboured extremely, his whole countenance changed, and his tones were so harsh and discordant, that every one's ears were stunned. Yet after some residence in this country he readily caught two or three English songs, in which his voice by no means seemed unmusical.

He was of a very mild and compassionate disposition; and various instances proved he had brought from Pelew that spirit of benevolence and humanity which our countrymen found so much to prevail there. Nevertheless, he was at all times actuated

ated by judgment and discretion— if he met with young beggars, he rebuked them as well as the little English he knew would permit; but he always yielded to the intreaties of old-age—*Must give poor old man*, he would say,—*old man no able to work.*

Lee Boo, becoming much disgusted with Boyam his servant, who turned out to be an unprincipled fellow, solicited captain Wilson to send him back to Sumatra (the country of the Malays); and Tom Rose, (mentioned before as interpreter on the part of the English in conversing with the natives of Pelew,) a person of tried fidelity,

and who had picked up a good deal of the Pelew language, being now in England, was appointed in his room, greatly to the satisfaction of the Prince.

Captain Wilson was now and then indisposed with severe head-achs, which obliged him to lie down upon the bed for relief. The feelings of Lee Boo were ever sensibly affected on these occasions: he was always anxious and unhappy, would creep up softly to his guardian's chamber, and for a long time together sit silent and motionless by his bedside, only now and then peeping gently between the curtains, to see if he slept or lay easy.

During

During the voyage to China, Lee Boo had naturally contracted an intimacy with captain Wilson's son, who was a few years younger than himself, and of very amiable manners. This intimacy ripened, under the father's roof, to strong mutual attachment. It may be said, they looked upon one another as brothers; and Lee Boo, in the hours of retirement from his academical pursuits, could not but be happy to have such a companion to converse with, to exercise the throwing of the spear, or partake in any innocent amusement. The two friends had so much indulged themselves one morning in their diversion with the

the spear, that a message of a particular nature, with which captain Wilfon had charged his son, was totally forgotten. Upon enquiry after dinner, the captain discovered the neglect ; and, being hurt at it, chid his son rather hastily, telling him he was idle and careless. From the tone of voice with which this reproof was uttered, Lee Boo conceived and felt the anger of the father, and slipped unobserved out of the room. The matter was immediately dropped, and another subject started. Presently Lee Boo was missed, and his companion, who was sent to look for him, found him in a back room quite dejected. On
being

being desired to return to the family, he took his young friend by the hand, and, entering the parlour, went up to the father, laid hold of his hand, joined it with that of his son, and, pressing them together, dropped over both those tears of sensibility which his affectionate heart could not on the occasion suppress. — would to God that those who have been taught from Heaven that “Blessed are the peace-makers,” would *go and do like* this unenlightened child of Nature !

Lee Boo dining with a party of friends at Mr. Keate's, in the course of conversation that gentleman asked what effect painting had upon him ;

him ; when one of the company, Dr. Carmichael Smyth, wished Mr. Keate to bring a miniature of himself, that all might observe how he was struck by it. The prince had no sooner taken it in his hand, than, darting his eyes to the right object, he called out, *Misser Keate—very nice, very good.*— Captain Wilson then asked him, if he understood what it signified. His answer was, *Lee Boo understand well—that Misser Keate die—this Misser Keate live.*—Mr. Keate well observes of this little sentence, that a treatise on portrait-painting could not better have defined its utility and intent.

Mrs. Wilson, happening to sit
opposite

opposite Lee Boo at table, desired him to help her to some cherries. He was about to take them up with his fingers; but Mrs. Wilson pleasantly noticing it to him, he instantly made use of a spoon. A blush, however, with which his countenance was immediately suffused, shewed very visibly, even through his dark complexion, the sense he entertained of the small breach of politeness he had been guilty of.

Another lady, of the same party, being near fainting from the heat of the weather, was constrained to quit the room. Our amiable prince was greatly distressed at the incident; and, when at tea-time the lady
again

again made her appearance, his enquiries and particular attention to her, manifested alike his tenderness and good-breeding.

He preferred riding in a coach to any other mode of conveyance; because, he said, at the same time that people were carried where they wished to go, they could sit very commodiously and converse together.

Lee Boo derived particular pleasure from going to church, where, though he did not understand the words of the service, yet perfectly comprehending the intent of it, he always behaved with the greatest attention and reverence. Once, when captain

captain Wilson told him, that saying prayers at church was to make men good, that, when they died and were buried, they might live again above, pointing to the sky; Lee Boo answered with much earnestness—*All same Pelew—bad men stay in earth—good men go into sky—become very beautiful*, holding his hand in the air, and giving a fluttering motion to his fingers—thereby seeming to indicate his own countrymen's belief of the existence of the spirit after the death of the body.

In order to avoid the small-pox, as already mentioned, and also to prevent his mind from being disturbed

turbed and drawn off from the attainment of the English language, the great means by which information was to be conveyed to him, captain Wilson was very cautious and sparing in letting him go abroad: however, he not only generally accompanied the captain on visits to friends, but had also a view of most of the public buildings in the metropolis, the river, shipping, and bridges, which struck him greatly: he was, moreover, several times gratified with seeing the guards exercised in St. James's Park, as every-thing of a military kind greatly engaged his attention.

There was something very singular

gular in Lee Boo's opinion of aërostatation, or ascending into the air in a balloon, which so much engrossed the notice of the people of this country at the time of his coming here. It was given in conversation with his friend Mr. Keate, whose words we shall quote in laying it before the reader.

“ I went to see him,” says that gentleman, “ the morning after Lunnardi's first ascent in the balloon, “ not doubting but that I should “ have found him to the greatest “ degree astonished at an exhibition “ which had excited so much curiosity even amongst ourselves; “ but to my great surprize, it did “ not

“ not appear to have engaged him
“ in the least. He said, *he thought*
“ *it a very foolish thing to ride in the*
“ *air like a bird, when a man could*
“ *travel so much more pleasantly, on*
“ *horseback, or in a coach.*—He was
“ either not aware,” adds Mr.
Keate, “ of the difficulty or hazard
“ of the enterprize, or it is not im-
“ probable that a man flying up
“ through the clouds, suspended at
“ a balloon, might have been rank-
“ ed by him as a common occur-
“ rence, in a country which was
“ perpetually spreading before him
“ so many objects of surprize.”

Whenever he had an opportunity
of viewing gardens, the plants and
fruit-

fruit-trees excited his particular attention: he would make many enquiries concerning them, saying, when he should return home, he would carry with him seeds of such as would grow in Pelew. He frequently used to talk of the things he should then persuade the king his father to alter or adopt, and his principal researches were directed to the discovery of whatever might prove beneficial to his country.

This inquisitive and pains-taking young man was proceeding extremely fast in gaining the English language, and making so rapid a progress with his pen, that in a short time he would have written a very fine

fine hand, when, alas! he was attacked by that very disease against which so much caution had been used. On the 16th of December he found himself greatly disordered, and in the course of a day or two an eruption appeared all over him. Captain Wilson, full of apprehension, had immediate recourse to Dr. Carmichael Smyth, whom we have before mentioned, requesting him to see the prince. That gentleman kindly attended, and, upon the first sight of him, not only pronounced the distemper to be the small-pox, but was obliged to add the melancholy information, that the appearances were such as almost totally precluded

precluded the hope of a favourable termination. However, the Doctor prescribed what was then necessary, and, on captain Wilson's earnestly soliciting the continuance of his visits, assured him, that, however inconvenient the distance, he would not fail daily to attend the issue of the disease.

In this sad situation the afflicted youth was deprived of the solacing presence of his dear friend captain Wilson, who, not having had the small-pox himself, yielded to the entreaties of his family not to go into his chamber. However, his first and faithful friend Mr. Sharp, on hearing of his illness, repaired to his

his assistance, nor quitted the captain's house, till it was become the scene of death !

However much our suffering prince regretted the loss of the captain's company, yet, when informed of the reason and necessity of his absence, he could not but acquiesce in it, anxiously enquiring from time to time concerning his health, full of dread lest he should catch the disorder as he still continued in the house.

During the progress of this grievous distemper, Lee Boo maintained the utmost firmness of mind, and, having the highest opinion of Dr. Smyth, never refused to take any thing

thing administered to him, when informed that he desired it.—The youthful reader is here particularly called upon to imitate poor Lee Boo in cases of like necessity.

Hearing of an indisposition which now happened to Mrs. Wilson and confined her to her bed, Lee Boo instantly took alarm, exclaiming, *What, mother ill ! Lee Boo get up to see her !* He actually did so, and would go to her apartment to be sure how she really was.

On the Thursday before his death, as he walked across the room, he looked at himself in the glass, and, finding his face much swollen and disfigured, shook his head, and

K

in

in seeming disgust with his own appearance turned away, telling Mr. Sharp that *his father and mother much grieve for they knew he was very sick*. This he several times repeated. In the evening, growing worse, he became sensible of his danger; and taking Mr. Sharp by the hand, and stedfastly fixing his eyes upon him, said, with great earnestness, *Good friend, when you go to Pelew, tell Abba Thulle that Lee Boo take much drink to make small-pox go away, but he die—that the Captain and mother (Mrs. Wilson) very kind—all English very good men—was much sorry he could not speak to the king the number of fine things*

things the English had got. He then enumerated the presents which had been made him, and expressed his wishes that Mr. Sharp would distribute them, when he returned to Pelaw, amongst the chiefs, recommending to his especial care the blue glass barrels on pedestals, which he particularly directed to be given to the king.

His faithful servant Tom Rose, who stood at the foot of the bed, melted into tears at this melancholy scene: the agonized master gently rebuked him for his weakness, saying, *Why should he be crying so because Lee Boo die?*

Whatever he felt, his spirit did

K 2

not

not allow him to complain. Mrs. Wilson's chamber adjoined to his own, and he would often call out to enquire if she was better, always adding, to prevent her suffering any disquietude on his account, *Lee Boo do well, mother ; Lee Boo do well.*

The small-pox not rising, after eight or nine days from its coming out, he began to feel himself sink, he told Mr. Sharp *he was going away.* What he suffered in the latter part of his existence was severe indeed : his mind, however, continued perfectly clear and calm to the last, and the strength of his constitution struggled long and hard against the virulence of his distemper,

per, till, overwhelmed, nature yielded in the contest.

His good friend Mr. Keate (in addition to the intelligence obtained by his own personal enquiries) was kindly informed every day by Dr. Smyth of the state of his patient, and, being under an engagement, with his family, to pass a week with Mr. Brook Watson, at Sheen, (who was alike anxious and alarmed for this amiable young man,) he requested the Doctor to have the goodness to continue his information to him there. Accordingly, two days after he left town, he received from that gentleman an account of the melancholy issue, which we cannot

forbear laying before the reader by transcribing the whole of his very affecting and elegant letter.

“ Monday, Dec. 27, 1784.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ It is an unpleasant task for me
“ to be the herald of bad news, yet,
“ according to my promise, I must
“ inform you of the fate of poor
“ Lee Boo, who died this morning
“ without a groan, the vigour of his
“ mind and body resisting to the
“ very last.—Yesterday the secondary fever coming on, he was seized with a shivering fit, succeeded by head-ach, violent palpitation
“ of

“ the heart, anxiety, and difficult
“ breathing ; he again used the warm
“ bath, which, as formerly, afforded
“ him a temporary relief; he had
“ a blister put on his back, which
“ was as ineffectual as those applied
“ to his legs. He expressed all his
“ feelings to me in the most forcible
“ and pathetic manner, put my
“ hand upon his heart, leant his
“ head on my arm, and explained
“ his uneasiness in breathing ; but
“ when I was gone, he complained
“ no more, shewing that he com-
“ plained with a view to be relieved,
“ not to be pitied.—In short, living
“ or dying, he has given me a lesson
“ which I shall never forget ; and,
“ surely,

“surely, for patience and fortitude;
“he was an example worthy the
“imitation of a Stoic!—I did not
“see captain Wilson when I called
“this morning, but the maid ser-
“vant was in tears, and every per-
“son in the family wore the face of
“grief; poor Lee Boo’s affectio-
“nate temper made every one
“look upon him as a brother or a
“child.—Compliments to the la-
“dies, and to Mr. Watson; who,
“I make no doubt, will all join in
“regretting the untimely end of
“our poor prince.—From you, my
“friend, something more will be
“expected; and, though you can-
“not bring him back to life, you
“are

“are called upon (particularly con-
“sidering his great attachment to
“you) not to let the memory of so
“much virtue pass away unre-
“corded. — But I am inter-
“rupted in these melancholy re-
“flections, and have only time to
“assure you of (what will never pass
“away but with myself) the sincere
“friendship of your affectionate,
“&c.

“Jas. Carmichael Smyth.”

Captain Wilson, having notified
to the India House the death of this
admirable youth, received orders to
conduct his funeral with every
mark of decency and respect. He

was

was accordingly interred in Rotherhithe churchyard, attended by the captain and his brother; and such was the affectionate regard which all who knew entertained for him, that not only the young people of the academy, but even the whole parish seemed to have assembled to see the last ceremonies paid to his remains. An additional honour was soon afterwards done them by the India Company's ordering a tomb to be erected over his grave, on which is the following inscription:

To

PRINCE LEE BOO:

171

To the memory
of Prince LEE BOO,
A native of the Pelew or Palos Islands ;
And son to Abba Thulle, rupack or king
of the Island Cooroora ;
who departed this life on the 27th of December,
1784,
aged 20 years ;

This stone is inscribed,
by the Honourable United East-India Company,
as a testimony of esteem
for the humane and kind treatment afforded
by his Father to the crew of their ship
the Antelope, Captain Wilson,
which was wrecked off that island
in the night of the 9th of August, 1783:

Stop, reader, stop!—let Nature claim a tear—
A prince of mine, LEE BOO, lies bury'd here;

Mention

Mention has already been made of the presents consigned by Lee Boo to the care of Mr. Sharp for his father and friends. Amongst the other little property which the lamented youth left behind, were found, carefully and separately put up, the stones or seeds of most of the fruits he had tasted in England. We have before remarked, that the benefit of his country seemed to be his ultimate aim in all his observations; and here is a striking instance, considering his abode with us was no more than five months and twelve days, that, amidst all the novelties which surrounded him, he had duly given his attention to the object,

object, which, it is presumable, had been particularly recommended to it previous to his departure from Pelew.

We must take the liberty of concluding this little book with Mr. Keate's reflections upon the fate of the excellent subject of it, in his own words, as too interesting to be omitted, and too perfect to be altered or abridged without injury.

“ From these trifling anecdotes
“ of this amiable youth,” says he,
“ cut off in the moment that his
“ character began to blossom, what
“ hopes might not have been enter-
“ tained of the future fruit such a
“ plant would have produced !——

L

“ He

“ He had both ardour and talents
“ for improvement, and every gen-
“ tle quality of the heart to make
“ himself beloved; so that, as far as
“ the dim sight of mortals is per-
“ mitted to penetrate, he might,
“ had his days been lengthened,
“ have *carried back* to his own
“ country—not the *vices* of a new
“ world—but those *solid* advantages
“ which his own good sense would
“ have suggested, as likely to be-
“ come most useful to it.

“ But—how *carry back*?—That
“ event depended not on himself;—
“ a naked, *confiding* stranger—he
“ trusted implicitly to others, and
“ left the protecting arms of a fa-
“ ther

“ther without apprehension—with-
“out stipulation.—The evening
“before the Oroolong sailed, the
“king asked captain Wilson, how
“long it might be before his return
“to Pelew? and being told, that
“it would probably be about thirty
“moons, or might chance to extend
“to six more, Abba Thulle drew
“from his basket a piece of *line*, and,
“after making thirty knots on it, a
“little distance from each other, left
“a long space, and then adding six
“others, carefully put it by.

“As the slow but sure steps of
“time have been moving onward,
“the reader’s imagination will figure
“the anxious parent resorting to

“ this cherished remembrancer, and
“ with joy untying the earlier re-
“ cords of each elapsing period ;—
“ as he sees him advancing on his
“ *line*, he will conceive the joy re-
“ doubled ;—and, when nearly ap-
“ proaching to the *thirtieth* knot,
“ almost accusing the planet of the
“ night for passing so tardily away.

“ When verging towards the ter-
“ mination of his *latest* reckoning,
“ he will then picture his mind
“ glowing with parental affection,
“ occasionally alarmed by doubt—
“ yet still buoyed up by hope ;—he
“ will fancy him pacing inquisitively
“ the sea-shore, and often corn-
“ manding his people to ascend
“ every

“ every rocky height, and glance
“ their eyes along the level line of
“ the horizon which bounds the
“ surrounding ocean, to see if haply
“ it might not in some part be bro-
“ ken by the distant appearance of a
“ returning sail.

“ Lastly, he will view the good
“ Abba Thulle, wearied out by that
“ expectation, which so many re-
“ turning moons since his reckon-
“ ing *ceased*, have by this time
“ taught him he had nourished in
“ vain.—But the reader will bring
“ him back to his remembrance,
“ as armed with that unshaken for-
“ titude that was equal to the trials
“ of varying life.—He will not in

L 3,

“ *him,*

“ *him*, as in less manly spirits, see
 “ the passions rushing into opposite
 “ extremes—*hope* turned to *despair*,
 “ —*affection* converted to *hatred*.—
 “ No—after some allowance for
 “ their natural fermentation, he will
 “ suppose them all placidly sub-
 “ ding into the *calm* of resigna-
 “ tion!—

“ Should this not be absolutely
 “ the case of our friendly king—as
 “ the human mind is far more
 “ pained by *uncertainty* than a know-
 “ ledge of the *worst*—every reader
 “ will lament, he should to this mo-
 “ ment remain ignorant that his
 “ long-looked-for son can return no
 “ more!”

E I N I S.

